

10 into a plurality of compartments, each of which is defined by recesses 40a-c (see FIG. 4), respectively, and each of which extend laterally between the longitudinal sides 34a-b of the blister tray 10. A groove 42a (see FIG. 4) is formed between an adjacent pair of prominences 36a-b, while a groove 42b (see FIG. 4) is formed between an adjacent pair of prominences 36b-c. Also, a groove 42c (see FIG. 4) is formed between an adjacent pair of prominences 36c-d. A groove 44a (see FIG. 4) is formed between an adjacent pair of prominences 38a-b, while a groove 44b (see FIG. 4) is formed between an adjacent pair of prominences 38b-c. Also, a groove 44c (see FIG. 4) is formed between an adjacent pair of prominences 38c-d. The grooves 42a-c, 44a-c formed between each adjacent prominence 36a-d, 38a-d, respectively, are aligned longitudinally such that the groove 42a is aligned with the groove 44a, the groove 42b is aligned with the groove 44b, and the groove 42c is aligned with the groove 44c. In this manner, the grooves 42a, 44a cooperate to receive two portions of the elongated shaft 16a of the medical device 12a, the grooves 42b, 44b cooperate to receive two portions of the elongated shaft 16b of the medical device 12b, while the grooves 42c, 44c cooperate to receive two portions of the elongated shaft 16c of the medical device 12c.

[0022] Although the blister card 18 and the device package 20 can be inserted into other blister trays, the blister card 18 and the device package 20 are described for use within the blister tray 10. It should be understood, however, that the foregoing description of the blister tray 10 is only meant to be illustrative of one type of blister tray and is not meant to limit the scope of the present invention.

[0023] FIG. 2 shows the blister card 18 in an unfolded state prior to being assembled and placed within the blister tray 10. The blister card 18 includes a main panel 46 and a retaining panel 48 connected thereto. The main panel 46 is subdivided into a front panel 50 and a back panel 52. More particularly, the front panel 50 is connected to the back panel 52 at a first fold line 54 along one edge 55 of the front panel 50, and to the retaining panel 48 at a second fold line 56 along an opposite edge 58 of the front panel 50. As shown in FIG. 2, the front panel 50 may be selected to have an approximate length d_1 measured between the opposing edges 55, 58 of the front panel 50.

[0024] As illustrated in FIG. 2, the back panel 52 has an edge 59 adjacent the first fold line 54 and an opposite edge 60 defined by a pair of tabs 61 positioned distal to the first fold line 54. The tabs 61 are separated by an opening 62 which has a width that is larger than that of the retaining panel 48 so as to allow the retaining panel 48 to extend between the tabs 61. As described in further detail herein-after, the tabs 61 are sized and shaped to bias the main panel 46 toward the blister tray 10 after the blister card 18 is inserted therewith. Still referring to FIG. 2, the back panel 52 may be selected to have an approximate length d_2 measured between the edge 59 and the opening 62 of the back panel 52, while the back panel 52 may be selected to have an approximate length d_3 measured between the opposing edges 59, 60 of the back panel 52. Each of the lengths d_1 , d_2 , d_3 has a value, such that $d_3 > d_1 > d_2$.

[0025] The main panel 46 of the blister card 18 includes graphics and/or indicia 66 printed thereon for aiding and serving as a quick reminder to medical personnel on how to

perform one or more common tasks pertaining to the medical devices 12a-c (see FIG. 1) contained in the blister tray 10 (see FIG. 1). For instance, the graphics and/or indicia 66 can include a simplified representation of how the medical devices 12a-c should be assembled. Alternatively, the graphics and/or indicia 66 can include a warning that functions to remind medical personnel on one or more hazards relating to the medical devices 12a-c contained in the blister tray 10.

[0026] Still referring to FIG. 2, the retaining panel 48 is subdivided into a long panel 68 and a flap 70. More particularly, the long panel 68 is connected to the front panel 50 at the second fold line 56 along one edge 71 of the long panel 68, and to the flap 70 at a third fold line 72 along an opposite edge 73 of the long panel 68. The retaining panel 48 is sized and shaped to extend between the tabs 61 and through the opening 62 of the back panel 52 when the front panel 50 and the back panel 52 are folded about the first fold line 54, and the retaining panel 48 is folded about the second fold line 56. The flap 70 has an edge 74 adjacent the third fold line 72 and an opposite edge 75 positioned distal to the third fold line 72.

[0027] The following description will describe the insertion of the blister card 18 within the blister tray 10 as shown in FIG. 3. Initially, the front panel 50 and the back panel 52 are folded toward each other such that the edge 58 of the front panel 50 abuts a portion of the back panel 52 that is between the opening 62 and the edge 60 of the back panel 52. The front panel 50 and the back panel 52 are folded so as to reduce the length of the blister card 18, thereby reducing space.

[0028] Next, the blister card 18 is inserted in the recess 40b within the blister tray 10 by extending the retaining panel 48 between the tabs 61 and through the opening 62 of the back panel 52 and positioning the retaining panel 48 below the medical devices 12a-b such that the flap 70 extends beyond the medical device 12b in a direction away from the longitudinal side 34a of the blister tray 10. The front panel 50 and the back panel 52 are positioned directly above the medical devices 12a-b such that the tabs 61 of the back panel 52 are positioned adjacent the outer peripheral rim 24 and on the inner peripheral ledge 26 of the blister tray 10. In this position, the front panel 50 and the back panel 52 cover a portion of the recess 40b formed in the blister tray 10. The relative position of the front panel 50, the back panel 52, and the medical devices 12a-c is illustrated in FIG. 3. It should be noted that the front panel 50 is positioned directly above the back panel 52. Lastly, the flap 70 of the retaining panel 48 is folded about the third fold line 72.

[0029] After the blister card 18 is inserted within the blister tray 10, the tabs 61 of the back panel 52 function to hold the blister card 18 in a planar orientation relative to the blister tray 10, while also biasing the main panel 46 toward the blister tray 10. The tabs 61 also prevent the main panel 46 from pivoting about the second fold line 56 formed between the retaining panel 48 and the front panel 50. The retaining panel 48 functions to hold the blister card 18 in place within the blister tray 10 until the blister card 18 is physically removed therefrom, while also biasing the main panel 46 toward the blister tray 10. Further, the flap 70 functions as an anchor for the blister card 18 so as to hold the blister card 18 firmly in place within the blister tray 10 in instances when the blister tray 10 is accidentally tilted or inverted.